

Eastern Trip—(Concluded)

In memorial Hall our time was limited, hence will note only a few of the many things we saw, among them a "Sedan Chair," in which some of the royal families of other lands were transported by their subjects, carrying them from place to place as they directed. There might be some preachers who would like to be carried around in "Sedan Chairs," as they direct; and there might also be one or two church members who are not preachers that would like to be carried. Brethren, let us run, and not get weary for in due season we shall reap if we faint not. Two statues, giant size, and the most hideous in their appearance imaginable, stand along the way. These were brought from heathen lands where they are placed at the entrances of the temples where idols are worshipped to keep the devil out. Oh, how sad to know that millions and billions of dollars are spent yearly for alcoholic beverages, tobacco, and many other narcotics thru which millions of souls are dragged down into eternal ruin and misery annually. Lord, hasten the day when these evils shall cease to be, and the moneys thus expended appropriated in Christianizing the world. Get Christ into the hearts of the people, then the devil must stay out. Lord, bless the mission cause, home and foreign.

We saw a cannon that was made 250 years before the birth of Christ, and was made use of in the Chinese wall near one of the gates in defending the entrance from invaders, or enemies. It is of about three inch calibre, about four feet long, very small in comparison with the great cannons of other nations of the world. If the Lord would have the swords and spears of the former dispensation manufactured into plow shares and pruning hooks; if he would direct now perhaps he would have the present age cannons and other missiles of carnal warfare manufactured into railroad irons and the instruments of industry for the welfare of the human race, and not for their destruction. The panoramic views of the great city of Pompeii, after her destruction and also during the days of her magnificence and power of which much was improperly applied in the destroying of the Christians of her age, are to be seen here. One scene that impressed the writer very much was that of a condemned Christian in the amphitheater who was to fight a large lion. The man is represented as ready for the conflict, while the great giant of the forest is represented as walking away in a sulking manner. Surely the God of Daniel could accomplish this. May he ever save us from the lion of sin.

After passing thru among the many things of art, beautiful and interesting, we left Memorial Hall, to visit the Navy yard, but on account of disappointment and shortness of time we failed. After purchasing tickets for Johnstown and having my baggage checked and Brother Bauman making a few purchases, we took street cars for his Christian home, and the home of our dear Brother Cassel in whose room I saw several enlarged pictures, his own and that of his beloved companion, Sister Cassel, whose resting place we saw in the Germantown cemetery. Peace to her mortality and corruption until she shall be clothed with immortality and incorruption and bask in the heavenly sunshine of eternal deliverance. May the God of all peace comfort Brother Cassel and daughter with that blessed hope of immortality and heavenly reunion. Brethren Cassel and Bowman have quite a library. So also Brother I. D. Bowman. I would have enjoyed myself much in biblical research, but time failed. I was very sorry that I could not meet our dear Brethren Cassel and Bowman and enjoy their Christian society. May the Lord abundantly bless all whose hospitality and society I shared so largely.

The last evening of my stay in the city was prayer meeting appointments. On account of my presence and for mutual benefit was changed to an outline talk from a Biblical Chart. God bless those who were present for their token of appreciation. After the close of the services while enjoy-

ing the Christian fellowship of those present Elder Bauman called my attention to an inquiry concerning the German Baptist Brethren church, having two organs in their church edifice in Philadelphia. Thru Brother Kolb I was informed that they had two organs and a piano. Shortly after receiving this information, our dear Sister Kolb who is a member of that church and the principle teacher in one of the class rooms of the Sabbath school, communicated the facts as follows, that, there is in the building three organs and one piano. An organ in each of the two Sabbath school rooms and one in the audience room, and the piano in the lecture room. Annual meeting decreed that there should be no organs used in their churches. Now if the Annual Meeting is the church, and the church is the Annual Meeting as some Elders affirm, their decisions being mandatory, all such local churches who will not hear the Annual Meeting church, should be dis-fellowshipped. I have no criticism to offer, but consistency is certainly a precious jewel. Many of our dear brethren and sisters in the German Baptist church are tired of their Annual meeting creed, but lack the moral and Christian courage to come out and say, No creed but the bible, no law but the Gospel of Jesus Christ, no power but that of the *tri-une God*. They know that they have too many modes of feet washing, that they follow a Greek tradition in passing the salutation of the holy kiss around the table after the supper, that the sisters should have the right of breaking and passing the Eucharistic emblems, bread and wine, the same as the brethren; they know that the apostolic precedent for the ordination of officials is by prayer and laying on of hands, (I mean bishops and deacons) they know that there is no precedent given by Christ or the apostles for the confirmation of baptized believers in the water, they know that the Lord did not tell the human race what cut or quality of clothing either Christians or sinners should wear, "and such like." I am very conscious of the fact that it would be a hard task for many of the Annual Meeting leaders to admit these facts and confess that the Brethren church did right in coming out from under human laws and rulings and reaffirming the doctrine and principles of the church of God as enjoyed by our forefathers, having no creed but that God given one, the Bible, the whole Bible, and nothing but the Bible. We ask no such confession or concession. But I do emphatically believe that I voice the sentiment of every member, brother and sister, of the Brethren church when I say, "Go thou and do likewise." Have no creed but that given to mankind by the triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Regarding conferences, whether annual, semi or tri, (or oftener if need demand) be expedencies as they were before elder ruling exalted them to law-making bodies. May the Lord hasten the day so that there can be a consolidation and grand reunion of the present dissolved elements.

Having been snow and ice bound in New Jersey four days and enjoying about the same length of time in the city I said fare ye well and took train for Johnstown. Had a short interview with elder Daniel Crofford and son, met elder R. Z. Replogle at the station; after a short and pleasant interview he started on his business and I took train for Indiana. After enjoying a dinner at the West End Hotel I had the pleasure of assisting in the tying of a matrimonial knot. Arrived home same day, found all well as usual. Thanks to the good Father.

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